

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a disturbing trend that threatens democracy and freedom of choice, as a result of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Content prepared at "News Central" far away is non-representative and misleading, shows contempt for local communities and issues. It's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.